

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 20 OCTOBER 1993

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 0871-0-01 (ACCNO 5452)	Status: (8) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED	
Name: HEMMEL, CLARENCE JOSEPH	Date Status assigned: 3 Nov 1975	
Nationality AMERICAN	Race CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit #
Service AIR FORCE	Sex MALE	Blood type O +
Grade O3	Hair BROWN	Complexion #
SSAN DATA	Eyes #	Weapon #
Serial No 000070074	Height 70 in / 1.78 mtrs	Weapon No #
Birth date 30 Oct 1941	Weight 171 lb / 77.5 kg	Duty pos PILOT
Home State MISSOURI	Religion CATHOLIC	PW Camp \$

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: WATER SITE
UTM: 49PBT430280
Lat/Long: 153705N / 1083610E
Country: OVER WATER - VS
Military Region: \$
Mission Province: QUANG NAM-DA NANG
(formerly):
Mission District: TAM KY TOWN
Mission Date: 21 Oct 1967
Mission Category: 3
Local Analysis: None.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Folders Passed: Jul 93
Investigations: Aug 93
Surveys: Aug 93
Vessey Case: NO

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type: F100D	Serial: 2965
Crash Type: None	Engine Type: J57
Call Sign: EAGLE 02	1 Serial: 602824
Year: 56	2 Serial:

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

= Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.
\$ = Item is not applicable to this case.
@ or Blank = Data for item is unknown or not available.

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=== CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS ===

21 January 1976

ON 21 OCTOBER 1967 CAPT CLARENCE J. HEMMEL WAS THE PILOT OF AN F100D AIRCRAFT, (#56-2965), AS NUMBER TWO IN A FLIGHT OF TWO ON COMBAT SUPPORT MISSION OVER SOUTH VIETNAM (RVN). SHORTLY AFTER LEAVING THE TARGET AREA, THE FLIGHT LEADER LOST RADIO CONTACT WITH CAPT HEMMEL'S AIRCRAFT. A FORWARD AIR CONTROLLER IN THE AREA REPORTED OBSERVING AN EXPLOSION ABOUT FIVE MILES EAST OF TAM KY, RVN, ON THE WATER IN THE VICINITY OF GRID SQUARE BT 4328. NO PARACHUTE WAS SEEN AND NO BEEPER SIGNAL WAS HEARD.

SEARCH AND RESCUE EFFORTS BY SWIFT BOAT "SAM DRINK YANKEE" RECOVERED AN EMERGENCY SEAT KIT, A HELMET BAG, PARTS OF AN EJECTION SEAT HEADREST, AND OTHER SMALL OBJECTS. APPROXIMATELY 15 MILES NORTH OF CHU LAI, RVN, SEVEN TO EIGHT MILES AT SEA, HUMAN REMAINS WERE BELIEVED SEEN IN THE WRECKAGE OF CAPT HEMMEL'S AIRCRAFT, IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES BT 427 260. HOWEVER, THE SWIFT BOAT INADVERTENTLY CAUGHT THESE REMAINS IN THE PROPELLER AND THEY WERE NOT RECOVERED. SEARCH AND RECOVERY EFFORTS WERE TERMINATED ON THE AFTERNOON OF 22 OCTOBER 1967. (REF 1 & 2)

ON 3 NOVEMBER 1975 THE ARMED SERVICES GRAVES REGISTRATION OFFICE BOARD OF REVIEW CONCURRED IN JCRC RECOMMENDATION THAT THE REMAINS OF CAPT HEMMEL AREA NOT RECOVERABLE AT THIS TIME. SEARCH SHOULD REVERT TO INACTIVE STATUS AND SEARCH OPERATIONS SHOULD BE DISCONTINUED. (REF 3)

AN OVERWATER/AT-SEA CASUALTY RESOLUTION OPERATION WAS CONDUCTED DURING THE PERIOD OF JULY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1973 TO DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY/DESIRABILITY OF EXPANDING SUCH OPERATIONS TO BE USED IN CASES SUCH AS THIS. BASED ON THE COMBINED FACTORS OF COST AND LACK OF ANY POSITIVE RESULTS WHATSOEVER, THE AT-SEA OPERATIONS WERE TERMINATED. CAPT HEMMEL IS CURRENTLY CARRIED IN THE STATUS OF DEAD, BODY NOT RECOVERED.

=== REFERENCES ===

21 January 1976

REFERENCES USED: <1> MSG , 37TH CSG, PHU CAT AB, RVN, 280907Z OCT 67.
<2> EXTRACT , PACAFR 127-4 AND 7AF MSG 21918, 31 OCT 67. <3> LTR ,
DAAG-CAD-ASGRO, W/ENCLOSURES, 3 NOV 75. <4> 240457Z SEP 93 CJTFFA DET ONE
BANGKOK TH.

=== NEGOTIATION ACTIONS ===

20 August 1993

CASE NARRATIVE WAS PASSED TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT

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DURING THE 28 JUL 1993 POW/MIA TECHNICAL MEETING IN HANOI.

=== JOINT INVESTIGATION, SURVEY OR EXCAVATION ===

8 October 1993

ON 4 SEP 93, IE3 TRAVELLED TO TAM THANH VILLAGE, TAM KY DISTRICT, QUANG NAM-DA NANG PROVINCE TO INVESTIGATE CASE 0871. THE TEAM INTERVIEWED THREE WITNESSES. TWO OF THE WITNESSES IE3 INTERVIEWED PROVIDED A FIRST HAND ACCOUNT OF THE CRASH OF A JET AIRCRAFT AT SEA IN 1967 OR 1968. ALL THREE WITNESSES CLAIMED THAT MANY FISHERMEN HAVE REPORTED FISHING NETS BEING DAMAGED OR LOST DUE TO THE SUBMERGED TAIL PORTION OF THE AIRCRAFT, WHICH THEY SAY CAN BE SEEN FROM THE SURFACE DURING APRIL AND MAY. ALL THREE WITNESSES STATED THAT THEY HAVE NEVER SEEN NOR HEARD OF ANY REMAINS OR PERSONAL EFFECTS BEING FOUND AT THE SITE OR WASHING ASHORE. THE TEAM TRAVELLED BY BOAT TO THE CRASH SITE LOCATION MAINTAINED IN U.S RECORDS; THE LOCATION WHERE U.S. RECORDS REPORT REMAINS BEING INADVERTENTLY CAUGHT IN THE PROPELLER OF THE RESCUE VESSEL AND THE PLACE WHERE WITNESSES CLAIM THE TAIL PORTION OF THE AIRCRAFT IS LOCATED. DURING A SEARCH OF THESE AREAS, NO REMAINS, PERSONAL EFFECTS, OR WRECKAGE WAS FOUND. (REF 4)



JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
CAMP H. M. SMITH, HAWAII 96861-5025

21 JUL 1993

CASE 0871-0-01

NARRATIVE

ON 21 OCTOBER 1967, CAPTAIN CLARENCE J. HEMMEL WAS FLYING AN F-100D AIRCRAFT (SERIAL NUMBER 56-2965) IN A FLIGHT OF TWO AIRCRAFT ON A COMBAT SUPPORT MISSION. SHORTLY AFTER LEAVING THE TARGET AREA, THE FLIGHT LEADER LOST RADIO CONTACT WITH CAPTAIN HEMMEL. A FORWARD AIR CONTROLLER IN THE AREA REPORTED HE OBSERVED AN EXPLOSION IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES BT4328, APPROXIMATELY 12 KILOMETERS NORTHEAST OF TAM KY, QUANG NAM-DA NANG PROVINCE. HE SAW NO PARACHUTE AND HEARD NO BEEPER SIGNALS. SEARCH AND RESCUE FORCES RECOVERED A SEAT CUSHION, PART OF AN EJECTION HEADREST AND OTHER SMALL PARTS BUT NO REMAINS.

PERTINENT DATA ARE AS FOLLOWS:

NAME: HEMMEL, CLARENCE JOSEPH
RANK: CAPTAIN, U.S. AIR FORCE
DATE OF BIRTH: 30 OCTOBER 1941
RACE: CAUCASIAN
HEIGHT: 1.78 METERS
WEIGHT: 77.5 KILOGRAMS
HAIR: BROWN
EYES: BROWN